

RECOGNIZING CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT TROY J. MCINTOSH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Master Sergeant Troy J. McIntosh on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force following more than 29 years of dedicated service to our country. In his most recent assignment, he was Superintendent, Physical Disability Board and Review, Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Pentagon. In this role, he is the enlisted representative and adjudicator for vital information specific to the enlisted force when reviewing final board of appeals for physical disability evaluations.

Chief McIntosh enlisted in the Air Force on July 7, 1981 as a Security Forces Specialist. He served for four years in this role prior to cross training into the Personnel career field. He remained on active duty until 1992 at which time he joined the California Air National Guard as a traditional Guardsman for six years. In 1998, Chief McIntosh joined the Air Force Reserve with the Commander's Support Staff for the Chief of Air Force Reserve. Excelling in this role, he was soon assigned as Superintendent, Policy and Integration where he worked as a Congressional Liaison educating members of Congress and their staff on the roles and missions of the Air Force Reserve.

On September 11, 2001 following the terrorist attack on the Pentagon, Chief McIntosh displayed the attributes and core values that many of our men and women in uniform show daily around the globe. Directly after the attack, Chief McIntosh rushed to the impact site to render assistance and immediately started pulling victims to safety—despite the obvious risk to his personal wellbeing. He later helped relocate the same victims when a second aircraft was thought to be inbound, similar to the attacks on the World Trade Center. When Chief McIntosh finally left the area 36 hours later, he had helped secure the safety and treatment of over 150 people. On September 24, 2002 he was awarded the Air Force Airman's Medal for this selfless act of heroism.

Chief McIntosh's patriotism and dedication to our national defense continued as he deployed the following month to Al Udeid AB, Qatar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. As the Personnel Director for the Joint Forces Special Operations Command, a role traditionally held by a senior officer, he was responsible for ensuring that the right military personnel from all services within the Department of Defense would be provided at the beginning of a war that continues to this day.

Due to his achievements and obvious dedication to his fellow airmen, it was no surprise he was chosen as the thirteenth Command Chief for the Air Force Reserve Command. During his two-year assignment, Chief McIntosh was responsible for advising the Commander on the health, morale, and utilization of over 55,000 assigned airmen. He developed and executed several pivotal programs helping transform the Air Force Reserve enlisted force into the successful Total Force partner they are today.

Chief McIntosh could not have been such a tremendous leader without the love and unfailing support of his mother, Jeannette, his father Connie Joe, his two daughters Tess and Kali, and his beautiful granddaughter Addison Marie.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our sincere respect and appreciation to Chief Master Sergeant Troy J. McIntosh for his outstanding service to the United States Air Force and our great nation. We wish him the very best as he transitions into retirement. Chief McIntosh is a true professional and a credit to himself, his family, and the United States Air Force Reserve and we thank him for his service to our country.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT MEDICAL CENTER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the American University of Beirut Medical Center, AUBMC, upon being designated as the first "Magnet" facility in the Middle East by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program.

The "Magnet" program recognizes nursing excellence in the delivery of care to patients, promoting quality health care services in an environment that supports professional nursing practice, and providing a mechanism for the dissemination of best practices for nursing services. AUMBC is the first health care institution in the Middle East and the third in the world outside the United States to receive this award.

"Magnet" recognized organizations set the global standard for professional nursing care and innovative health care reform that meets the needs of patients, families, and communities. Only five percent of all hospitals in the United States are "Magnet" recognized institutions, including such prestigious hospitals as Cedars Sinai Medical Center and Johns Hopkins Hospitals. Special recognition is in order for Gladys Mouro, Assistant Hospital Director for Patient Care Services, who spearheaded the 6-year effort to secure "Magnet" recognition.

I am absolutely delighted that this extraordinary designation was achieved at a U.S. recognized and supported institution, the prestigious institution of higher learning in the Middle East, the American University of Beirut. Congratulations to the AUB administration, faculty, and the entire AUBMC medical staff for their 6 years of hard work to achieve this goal.

HONORING LAWRENCE J. SUFFREDIN, SR.

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I submit this extension of remarks on behalf of

myself and my friend and colleague Representative QUIGLEY.

Madam Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to and remember the life of Lawrence J. Suffredin, Sr. He died on November 23, 2009.

Lawrence J. Suffredin, Sr. was born on June 1, 1921 at Garfield Park Hospital to Frank and Isola Suffredin. He was the second of their three children, Mary and the late Vincent. He attended Presentation Grade School, Crain High School, and DePaul University.

A true American hero, Larry, Sr. entered the Army in 1942 and served until 1945, with combat service in Africa and Europe. He was awarded a Bronze Star for valor in the face of the enemy, a Purple Heart, and other combat and campaign medals.

After the war, Larry, Sr. was a Chicago policeman, and then he became the "Printer to South Water Market." As the owner of Chicago Produce Publishing Company, he published numerous reports on the Chicago fruit and vegetable market, and published a newspaper, "The Chicago Fruit and Vegetable Reporter", 5 days a week from 1955 to 1986. He lived in Westchester, where he and his wife raised their family from 1948 until 2000. He was a founder and former president of Westchester Baseball, a former officer of the Holy Name Society of Divine Infant Parish, former co-president of the Parents' Association of Loyola University, and a former 25 year bingo worker for IHM High School. He married the late Patricia Mulrainey Suffredin on July 6, 1946.

A dedicated family man, Larry, Sr. leaves behind eight children: Lawrence, Jr., Genna, Paul, Susanne, Patricia, John, Peter and Michelle and thirteen grandchildren: Tom, Liz, Courtney, Nicholas, Stephen, Kevin and Morgan Suffredin, Andrea and Daniel Erikson, Erin and Bob Brown and Ethan and Henry Moskal. His wife, Patricia, died in December of 1990.

Wherever Larry went, he brought joy and laughter. His joy will be missed by all.

On behalf of our families, and those lives in our districts that Larry, Sr. touched over the years, we send our deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be missed.

MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT REFORM ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act, H.R. 3961, legislation that would ensure that physicians are reimbursed fairly for treating Medicare patients. Improving this payment system is vital to improving our Nation's health insurance system.

There is broad consensus that the current Medicare formula for reimbursing physicians, the Sustainable Growth Rate, SGR, is fundamentally flawed. This formula would be eliminated by this bill and replaced with a better structure for Medicare physician payments. Without this necessary action, doctors' payments would be cut 21 percent in 2010, forcing many doctors to stop accepting Medicare patients and undermining the ability of millions